Index for 1997 Postal History Journal

Compiled by Stephen S. Washburne

Each listing in this annotated index includes the issue and page number in the journal, the name of the author, the title of the article or reviewed book, description of the content, and three numbers showing the number of pages, references and illustrations in the piece.

These listings have been incorporated in a revised diskette version of the Cumulative Index, available for $15 from Kalman V. Illyefalvi, 8207 Daren Court, Pikesville MD 21208-2211, USA. The print version, covering 1957-1993, is available for the same price.

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*106:*32 **Burt, Randall E:** "Mail from Honolulu, Crossroads of the Pacific." Missionary mail to/from United States pre-1850; rates, routes, ships, maps, tables. (18-29-11).

*106:*50 Healey, Barth: "American Postal History in Other Journals." (2.4-17-0).

*106:*52 Geraci, Joseph: "Foreign Postal History in Other Journals." (3.6-24-0).

*106:*58 Cohn, Ernst M.: Book review of *U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996* by Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher. (.7-0-0).

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Russian Stamps Used in Finland

A Book Review by Alan Warren

Russia in Finland by Roger P. Quinby and Dirk Vorwerck, 1997, 57 pages, saddle-stitched, 6 by 9 inches, softbound, illustrated; $5 postpaid to U.S. addresses from Scandinavian Collectors Club, P.O. Box 125, Newark DE 19715.

This monograph focuses on the use of the stamps of Russia in Finland from 1891 to about 1918, and is therefore of interest to collectors of Finland and Russia alike. It is the first detailed discussion of this postal history subject in the English language. The booklet is a supplement to *The Posthorn*, the journal of the Scandinavian Collectors Club. The authors have combined material published in other languages into one cohesive overview of the use of Russian currency stamps in Finland.

Finland was part of the Swedish empire until the treaty of the Swedish-Russian War caused Finland to be ceded to Russia in 1809. Although under Russian influence, the country was allowed to remain autonomous in many respects until 1890 when the Russification of Finland became more intense. In 1891 the Russian stamps and stationery were issued with rings, to distinguish them for use in Finland, and the stamps could be paid for with either Finnish or Russian currency.

In 1894 the cancellations in Finland became bi- or tri-lingual to reflect Finnish or Swedish and Russian place names. A manifesto signed by Czar Nicholas II eventually led to discontinuance of the special ring stamps and mandated the use of Russian stamps in Finland. One interesting episode of resistance to these changes was the issuance of the so-called Mourning stamp, a discussion of which is included in this monograph.

After setting the stage with the political changes, the authors go on to discuss the usage of the ring stamps and stationery and their period of validity, followed by the use of the 1914-15 semi-postal charity stamps of Russia. The Finnish currency stamps of 1901

and 1911 were intended for use domestically, while the Russian equivalents were for mail sent abroad. The Romanov issues are also found used in Finland, although there is no real evidence that they were ordered for sale in that country.

Many types of cancellations were used during the period 1890-1918 on the Russian currency stamps. The monograph concludes with rate tables and a bibliography for further study of the subject. There is no index which is a shortcoming of the work. The booklet is recommended to students on both Finnish and Russian postal history during this interesting period of time.

Postal Markings of Jamaica

A Book Review by Guy R. Dillaway

The Postal Markings of Jamaica, by Ian Potter, 1996, 8½ x 11 inches, hardbound, 476 pages. Published by Ian Potter. Exclusive distributor outside Europe (including the U.K.) is the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Price £65, postpaid from Cyril Bell, 4445 Riverside Drive, Lilburn, GA 30247. Remittances in U.S. dollars only, by check or bank draft drawn on a U.S. bank, made payable to *BCPSG*. No postal money orders.

The author has assembled a massive work that lists and describes all the 915 known sources of postal cancellations for Jamaica. He has brought together the works of several major authors/researchers of Jamaican philately which should be welcomed by collectors of this subject.

Divided into two sections, the book's first (53 pages) describes the various types of cancels following a format similar to Thomas Foster's *Jamaica — The Postal History 1662-1860*. The second (424 pages) is an alphabetical list of the issuing authorities, including tables of details of all canceling dies. This is a computer database easily accessible for changes and additions, which are eagerly sought by the author.

The major problem for this reviewer is the editing and format of the manuscript itself. In the first section the punctuation needs improvement within sentences, and sentence structure is awkward. This makes reading the text difficult. The use of "&" in place of "and" within sentences is annoying. It is preferable that paragraphs be justified and "newspaper" style hyphenation avoided.

In the second section a heading and its table may not always be on the same page. This is especially awkward when the table starts or continues on the reverse of the page. Proper report formatting and pagination would improve this. Perhaps moving illustrations to fill in gaps between tables is feasible.

Despite editing problems, this book was a major undertaking that provides very useful information for the Jamaican collector. The author considers this a work in progress. I recommend purchasing this edition to have the current information in your library.

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